

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure.

Please add the following new Abstract of the Disclosure:

--A control communication system and method that includes synchronizing a timing in a central earth station and a plurality of remote earth stations such that a predetermined time control period having a plurality of time slots is synchronized among the central earth station and the remote earth stations. The control time period is not longer than a substantially real-time response period for the remote stations. The control communication system includes an information resource providing a high bandwidth transmission, a satellite, a central earth station, and one or more remote earth stations. The remote stations transmit control information on a first transmission path through the satellite to the central earth station only during a time slot assigned to the respective remote earth station. The central station responds to the control information through a second transmission path which differs from the first transmission path.--